

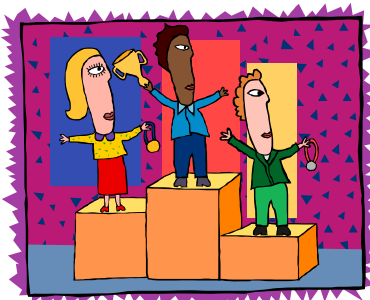
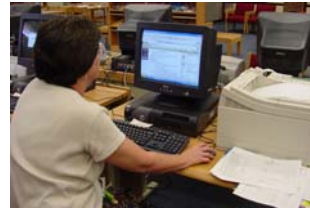


# The Hal yard

A weekly newsletter for  
Virginia's  
Library Media Specialists  
September 24, 2004

## Charlie's chatter

This week, I visited in the Louisa County Schools. I would like to thank Bruno Sestitio and his staff for their warm welcome. I had a wonderful time seeing the results of much planning and hard work in integrating technology into the total instructional program.



## Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Award Winner

Recommended Grant: \$350,000

Bedford Public Schools serves 623 rural students in Bedford Elementary School and 550 students in Bedford Middle School. The Libraries Improving Literacy project's goal is to improve student literacy which will better prepare all students in both schools for future academic success. This will be accomplished by

upgrading available library resources in order to accommodate the diversity of students; implementing effective collaboration among library media specialists, teachers, parents, and community partners; extending library hours by providing for additional personnel; and providing increased access to materials housed in well equipped, technologically advanced school media centers.

WAY TO GO BEDFORD LIBRARIES

## Television Viewing Safety

Do you want to take charge of what your family sees on television and the Internet? You're not alone. Over 70% of the parents recently surveyed said they want help in identifying good content and avoiding subject matter they find objectionable. That's why Cox Communications developed *Take Charge! Smart Choices for your Cox Digital Home*. Cox helps you identify great educational TV shows and Web sites and provides tools to help you make smart decisions about the content available to your kids.

<http://www.cox.com/takecharge/>

## Oprah's Book Club

CHICAGO - This September, thanks to a continuing partnership with Oprah's Book Club®, American Library Association (ALA), organizational and library members will receive free copies of the newest Oprah's Book Club selection, "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck.

Winner of the 1932 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, "The Good Earth" is the story of Wan-Lung and O-Lan, peasants in 1920s China. Buck's rich descriptions of life during the reign of the last Emperor and vivid accounts of their devotion to land, to duty and to survival, make "The Good Earth" compelling reading. Pearl S. Buck was the first American woman to win the Nobel Prize for literature.

Since its beginning in 1996, publishers of Oprah's Book Club selections have donated nearly 500,000 free books to ALA organizational members for use in their communities. Winfrey has made the book donation program a central part of her Book Club, enabling libraries across the country to provide access to new and classic titles for readers.

"This donation comes at a time when economic hardships continue to impact library resources throughout the country," said ALA Associate Executive Director Gerald Hodges. "The American Library Association and its members appreciate this generous gift, and Ms. Winfrey's and Simon & Schuster's continued support of library book clubs and literacy efforts."

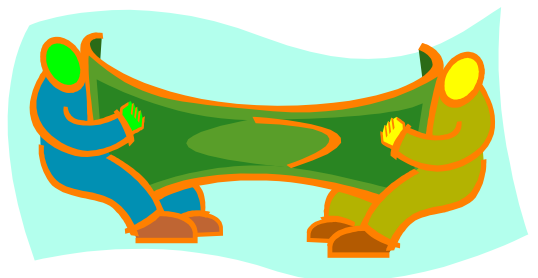
"The Good Earth" will be sent free of charge by Simon & Schuster, <http://www.simonandschuster.com/>, to ALA member public libraries, community college libraries and high school library media centers.

Oprah's Book Club Web site, <http://www.oprah.com/>, provides tips for organizing and hosting book groups, discussion guides for selected titles, opportunities to participate in discussions through the Web site, and features on other book clubs around the country.

For information on becoming an organizational or library member of ALA and receiving your own complimentary copies of "The Good Earth," please visit <http://www.ala.org/membership>

## Grants and Funding

This article will highlight some of the top foundations and top grants in the library field, give you background information on the field of foundations, provide you with a guided tour of the grant seeking process, and conclude with a list of fundraising resources and components of key proposals."



Click here to view this article: <http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/may00/camarena.htm>

***Community Foundation Locator:***

<http://www.communityfoundationlocator.org/search/index.cfm>

Provides information on the Community Foundations that provide grants to educators (each state has from 1-49). Also includes specific sites to find other grant resources and informative help in the grant process.

***Funding & Grant Sources:***

<http://www.libraryhq.com/>

Annotated list of helpful sources, divided into Articles, Websites, Scholarships, Foundations, and Fundraising Books.

***Grant Writing-Sources & Tips:***

<http://7-12educators.about.com/library/weekly/aa061500a.htm>

Short, helpful, specific advice about the entire grant process project overview, need for project, research sources, amount needed, special community circumstance, and evaluation methods.

## **Linking Libraries Update**

The ship is beginning to see the shoreline and is continuing to sail on towards Roanoke. The resource guide is being refined, and edited to make sure that the SOL are current, the lessons are realistic, and for consistency across grade levels.

The captains and crew want to emphasize that this document is not intended to be a curriculum guide, a scope and sequence or to be referred to as Library Standards of Learning. The document is a resource and a guidance document that is used in the design, planning and implementation of a total library program that addresses academic achievement.

The target audience for the resource is those who are constantly seeking ways of aligning their program with the both state and national content and technology standards. This is just the beginning and is being maintained electronically so it can be modified and reflect future changes in standards.

Accompanying resources will include a resource list, web sites to visit, and expanded activities and strategies. There will also be a tracking sheet that may be used to indicate the skills, both SOL and information literacy, taught in each grade level.

Be sure to check the VEMA program schedule and plan to attend at least one of the concurrent sessions. If you are unable to be there, the document will be available on the DOE web site.

## **NEW URL**

Please reset your browser to <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/> for the Department of Education's new web address. All DOE email addresses will be changing over the next few months. Watch for additional details.

